

**THE SAMARITAN WOMAN**

**JESUS SPEAKS TO THE SAMARITAN WOMAN**

**The icon on our bulletin depicts Christ and the woman of Samaria. This fascinating story is told in the Gospel of St. John 4:5-52, read every fifth Sunday after the Resurrection. It is an event with profound lessons that are vital in every age.**

**The Lord had been travelling with the Apostles when they came to an ancient well. They stopped there to rest and eat. Jesus sent the disciples to town to buy food, and in the meantime He went to the well for water. A Samaritan women come to draw from the well, and Jesus spoke to her. A Striking conversation ensued, providing her and her people, and us in our times, with challenging religious thought.**

**Jesus forgot all about His thirst and hunger as HE ministered to the needs of the woman. He spoke of ‘LIVING WATER,’ of spiritual sustenance or grace, so necessary for life. He reveals the secret life of the woman, she had endeavored to contract several marriages. He reveals Himself as the promised Messiah. He outlines what constitutes true worship of God.**

**The Apostles return with food and Jesus tells them He has eaten “food” which they are not aware of – that is, fulfilling the Will of the Father. He speaks to the Apostles of the fields of Humanity ripe for harvest into the Kingdom of God, and of the need for laborers in this effort.**

**When the woman goes back to her people and tells them of Christ, the Lord stays for two days and teaches the Samaritans who finally proclaim: “We have heard for ourselves and we know that this is in truth the Saviour of the world.”**

**Volumes can be written, and a multitude of sermons preached, on the great themes spoken by Our Lord as He sat alongside Jacob’s well. May we give the Gospel lesson the attention it deserves.**